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11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
12	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
13	THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN) Case No. 3:18-cv-07591-CRB
14	FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA and THE)
15	PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,) JOINT STATUS UPDATE Acting by and through San Francisco City
16	Attorney DENNIS J. HERRERA,)
17	Plaintiffs,
	vs.
18	PURDUE PHARMA L.P., et al.,
19	Defendants.)
20)
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4823-7953-2769.v1

conference scheduled for March 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

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. JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING SCHEDULE AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The parties respectfully submit this Joint Status Update in advance of the Court's discovery

The parties jointly report on a number of case developments that have taken place since

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the last conference with the Court.

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A. Case Schedule – Discovery Order No. 4 (ECF No. 451)

7 8 On January 29, 2021, the Court entered Discovery Order No. 4, which sets forth the following forthcoming schedule:

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Event Schedule May 21, 2021 Plaintiff's expert reports July 2, 2021 Close of fact discovery Defendants' expert reports July 23, 2021 Parties exchange rebuttal reports August 20, 2021 Close of expert discovery September 3, 2021 Motions for summary judgment and Daubert motions September 24, 2021 Oppositions to motions for summary judgment and *Daubert* motions October 22, 2021 Replies in support of motions for summary judgment and Daubert November 5, 2021 <u>mo</u>tions All trial materials due November 12, 2021 November 19, 2021 Final pretrial conference December 6, 2021 Trial

B. Discovery Orders Issued Since Prior Conference

On March 5, 2021, the Court denied without prejudice Defendants' motion to compel production of nine additional custodians but allowed Defendants an opportunity to "narrow their requests" in further meet-and-confer efforts. ECF No. 482. In the same order, the Court granted Defendants' motion to compel production of CURES data held by Plaintiff's epidemiologists. *Id.*

On March 8, 2021, the Court granted in part and denied in part Plaintiff's motion to compel production and amended discovery responses from Defendants Endo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its subsidiaries ("Endo") and Par Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ("Par"). It also ordered the parties to confer further regarding jurisdiction-specific search terms and the production of particular custodial files. ECF No. 485.

C. Order to Stay and Sever Proceedings Against Certain Defendants (ECF No. 441)

On January 26, 2021, the Court entered the Order Staying Proceedings Against Certain Defendants, staying the proceedings as to the Stipulating Defendants and requiring the Stipulating Parties to submit a status update on the proposed settlement within 60 days of the order (on or before March 29, 2021).

D. Related Case

On February 3, 2021, the Court granted Walgreens' motions to dismiss, dismissing the claims against Walgreens without prejudice. On February 16, 2021, plaintiff filed a motion for reconsideration. On March 2, 2021, the Court granted plaintiff's motion for reconsideration, ordering that an amended complaint be filed by March 22, 2021. On March 13, 2021, plaintiff filed an unopposed Motion for Leave to Add Walgreens Co. as a defendant in the Amended Complaint. ECF No. 69.

E. Discovery Motions

The parties and non-parties California Board of Pharmacy and California Department of Justice have briefed a number of disputes pursuant to the revised resolution protocol outlined in Discovery Order No. 2 (ECF No. 382) and applicable briefing orders for motions involving the non-parties. Those disputes are outlined in the chart below:

Moving Party	Responding Party	Dispute	ECF No.
Board of Pharmacy	Walgreens	Non-Party Board of Pharmacy's Motion to Quash Walgreens' July 23, 2020 Subpoenas	282, 458
Walgreens	California Department of Justice	Walgreens' Motion to Compel Certain CURES Data	465
Defendants (Walgreens, joined by Allergan, Anda and Teva)	Plaintiff	Identification of how the shipping of purportedly suspicious orders for prescription opioids has caused Plaintiff harm	495

II. PLAINTIFF'S STATEMENT

The parties have continued to work diligently since the last status conference. This statement outlines the status of issues the parties have resolved and those that may require the Court's input.

A. Plaintiff's Discovery Efforts

1. Plaintiff's Productions

Plaintiff met the February 26, 2021 substantial completion deadline and is now working diligently to produce its remaining documents and data. Since the last status conference, Plaintiff has produced an additional 15,600 documents, comprising 106,648 pages, which brings Plaintiff's total production to 383,536 documents and over two million pages.

To date, Plaintiff has produced custodial e-mails from the vast majority of the custodians on which the parties have agreed, including those added late in the discovery process. Plaintiff expects to complete initial e-mail production for all but the late-added custodians by next week. Plaintiff has also collected almost 20 group and individual non-e-mail custodial sources, as well as numerous database extractions and has produced much of those collections. The process of privilege review, and then production, from those that remain is underway. Plaintiff has thus far produced privilege logs covering more than two thousand documents, including two documents clawed back after inadvertent production and documents withheld from the custodians identified as substantially complete in December 2020. Plaintiff will continue producing additional logs on a rolling basis.

Plaintiff has also collected and produced relevant data from several databases, including from four separate Department of Public Health databases, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner database, and the Police Department's Crime Data Warehouse ("CDW"). Plaintiff is actively undertaking remaining database collections and collecting additional documents located on the City's shared drives. To the extent Defendants have raised factual questions regarding Plaintiff's database productions, Plaintiff has and will continue to provide substantive responses.

Defendants raise some purported concerns about Plaintiff's production below. Plaintiff will respond fully if those disputes become ripe for court intervention. Two discrete topics, however, require some context now:

Narrative Field in CDW Entries: The CDW contains data from police incident reports. As outlined in the last statement, Plaintiff agreed to produce responsive entries, notwithstanding the logistical challenge involved. It has now done so. The resulting Excel file contains 192

columns (each corresponding with a field from an incident report) and over 93,000 rows or entries. 2 Without having reviewed the production or offered a plausible explanation for why this field is 3 necessary and proportional, Defendants continue to insist that Plaintiff produce the free-form narrative with each responsive entry. From Plaintiff's perspective, the narrative field bears little 5 relevance to this litigation and is extremely burdensome to collect, review, and redact – in part because the field can contain extremely sensitive confidential informant information, and each 6 7 narrative must be reviewed by the respective reporting officer for that incident. Plaintiff, however, 8 has not categorically refused to produce any information from this field. Rather, as Plaintiff 9 reiterated in the last status update, it has "expressed willingness to engage with Defendants on 10 isolated requests for specific narratives that they feel are of heightened importance." ECF No. 469

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Police Investigation Files: To the extent that Defendants' statement below suggests that Plaintiff has agreed to produce investigation files, and has delayed in doing so, it is inaccurate. From its initial response to Defendants' discovery requests, Plaintiff has maintained that the Police

at 5. Defendants have not responded to this offer.

Department's investigation files are protected under California law. As such, Plaintiff has consistently refused to produce such investigation files to Defendants. Moreover, Plaintiff has sufficiently described the manner in which the Police Department's investigation files are maintained to sustain Plaintiff's privilege and burden objections.¹

B. Non-Party Discovery

Defendants' non-party discovery has been extensive. To date, the various Defendants have served dozens of subpoenas, comprising, at last count, well over 600 discrete document requests. Nine of those subpoenas (with more than 150 broad document requests) were served on non-party departments or divisions of the City and County of San Francisco, for which Plaintiff does not

As previously stated to Defendants, investigation files are maintained separately by each unit

of the San Francisco Police Department. The Narcotics unit, the unit of the Police Department most likely in possession of investigation files responsive to Defendants' requests, does not have

a central repository for such files. Instead, those investigation files are maintained separately by each officer in that unit. The Narcotics unit can locate files by Police Department case number,

using that reference to identify the individual officer who worked the case and working with that

officer to find the requested file.

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seek abatement costs. Five departments responded on January 29, 2021, and the remaining four responded on February 19, 2021. The non-party departments are being diligent in their searches and have begun to collect, review, and produce responsive documents.

C. Defendants' Productions

A number of Defendants have produced documents in other cases, some of which are relevant to this case and have been deemed produced here. As the Court knows, however, Plaintiff has also sought significant jurisdiction-specific discovery that was not produced in other litigation and that is necessary to proving this specific case.

At the time of this writing, some Defendants claim to have substantially completed their production of documents, some have yet to run search terms across agreed to custodians, and others remain silent on the issue. Until late afternoon on Friday, February 26, 2021, the deadline for substantial completion, Allergan still had not produced documents collected specifically for this case; and several agreed-to searches for documents responsive to many of Plaintiff's requests for production remained outstanding. Allergan produced 190,209 pages of documents on February 26, 2021; based on Plaintiff's review, the majority of these documents appear to have originated with Allergan's collection and production of documents pursuant to Judge Polster's sanctions order in the MDL, rather than searches specifically agreed to in this case. On March 12, 2021, Allergan produced an additional 32,755 pages of documents, and it represented in its cover letter than the production largely completed the outstanding searches and production to which the parties have thus far agreed. Plaintiff has not yet had the opportunity to analyze the sufficiency of the new production that Allergan represents as containing documents obtained through the agreed-to searches. But given the distribution of custodians in the new production, it appears that little was produced from the files of custodians identified for further production here. Moreover, Allergan did not begin to identify responsive documents from its prior productions until January 26, 2021, and Plaintiff is continuing to evaluate the sufficiency of those documents in order to assess whether additional supplementation is required. Similarly, the Teva Defendants (which now include various generic opioid entities Allergan owned for more than 15 years) have made two productions in this case of just over 54,000 pages total, 47,000 pages of which also arrived on January 26,

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2021. Teva avers that it has produced 3.2 million documents, but, to clarify, those productions were made in other opioid cases and deemed produced here. Thus far, Teva's production made specifically for this case consists of materials from the files of relevant sales representatives who detailed their brand-name fentanyl-containing drugs in San Francisco. Plaintiff is continuing to review Teva and Allergan's productions and will timely confer with them on any deficiencies Plaintiff identifies.

Walgreens' production remains lacking in significant ways. Walgreens' initial production of February 10, 2021 contained 6,923 documents. Plaintiff had requested that Walgreens provide an estimate of the remaining volume of San Francisco-specific documents to be produced from custodial files, but Walgreens provided no such estimate. Walgreens made a second production on the substantial completion deadline consisting of 66,317 pages, which Plaintiff continues to evaluate. Walgreens later represented that it had substantially completed the production of custodial files for some 51 individuals, but with some significant caveats. First, the vast majority of those custodians were pre-existing custodians from other litigation tracks. Second, "substantially complete" in this context did *not* include documents collected from search terms negotiated specifically for this case, which Plaintiff has been told should be produced sometime "around the end of the month [of March]." Third, absent from the list of 51 were seven of the eight dispensing-related custodians negotiated specifically for this case.² As of the substantial completion deadline, Walgreens had not produced a single document from these custodians, and Walgreens has not told Plaintiff when that production will begin, much less be substantially complete. Walgreens did make an additional production on Friday, March 12, 2021, but based on previous representations, Plaintiff understands that it includes only the remaining documents collected with the MDL search terms on the 51 custodians and does not fill any of the gaps noted

For the second consecutive status report, Walgreens incorrectly suggests below that Plaintiff was somehow dilatory in identifying these jurisdiction-specific custodians. In fact, Plaintiff had been requesting the predicate information necessary to make a custodian proposal since at least October 2020. It was only after continued requests that, in January, Walgreens finally provided enough information – albeit far less than Plaintiff requested – such that Plaintiff could make a proposal as to regional and local custodians related to Walgreens' dispensing practices.

above. Finally, Plaintiff and Walgreens exchanged their selection of stores for the production of certain in-store due-diligence materials on March 12, 2021; according to Walgreens, this will result in a substantial production, the timing of which is still in question. Walgreens has not provided an estimate of the remaining production volume.

On January 29, 2021, **Endo** produced 17,359 documents in this case. On February 26, 2021, Endo produced another 3,392 documents and Par produced three documents. Additionally, Plaintiff has confirmed that productions made in the MDL on February 25, 2021 are also responsive to requests for production served here. As part of those MDL productions, Endo produced 79,545 documents and Par produced 15,017. Plaintiff has not yet identified Endo's promised production of updated Board meeting minutes relating to opioids, however.

Pursuant to this Court's order of March 8, 2021, counsel for Plaintiff and Endo met and conferred multiple times regarding Plaintiff's proposed search terms and the production of documents from the files of Eric Vandal. The parties have come to an agreement on the search terms, with the exception of terms containing the term "I." With the assistance of their respective ESI specialists, the parties have discussed alternative methods for retrieving these documents. Endo has agreed to test these methods on its system and report back to Plaintiff. Endo has agreed to restore and produce responsive documents from a 2005 backup tape containing Mr. Vandal's e-mails, as well as tapes containing Mr. Vandal's "My Documents" files. However, Endo informed Plaintiff today that the 2005 backup tape is an incremental tape containing only three months' worth of Mr. Vandal's e-mails. Endo is now investigating what other tapes may contain Mr. Vandal's e-mails and will report back to Plaintiff.

In addition to the foregoing, the parties will continue to meet and confer on at least three issues. First, Plaintiff is seeking additional Endo sales custodians to replace six sales custodians Endo previously and incorrectly represented had San Francisco Bay Area sales responsibilities.³

On December 17, 2020, Endo represented to Plaintiff and this Court that it would produce documents from the files of 29 San Francisco sales custodians. In its interrogatory responses of January 22, 2021, Endo identified the 29 San Francisco sales custodians. It amended those responses on February 10, 2021 to remove five of those custodians. Furthermore, as noted in the parties' March 2, 2021 Joint Status Update, Plaintiff also recently learned that at least nine of the

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Second, in light of the Court's March 8, 2021 order, Plaintiff has asked **Par** to propose custodians and search terms relating to Par's unbranded marketing efforts. Third, in connection with the Chicago opioids litigation, it has recently come to Plaintiff's attention that Medical Science Liaisons, such as San Francisco custodian Bobbie Sue Brown, used a separate call note database that has not yet been searched or produced. We understand Endo is investigating the production of this information.

On March 10, 2021, **Anda** produced 1,703 documents responsive to supplemental search terms and from the custodial files of a recently added document custodian. Plaintiff is reviewing that production and will meet and confer with Anda regarding any deficiencies identified. To date, Anda has produced 11,811 documents in this litigation and represented that its production is substantially complete for the first time in this Joint Status Update.

D. Proposed Agenda for Status Conference

Plaintiff submits that the status conference should address the issues outlined herein.

III. DEFENDANTS' STATEMENT

A. Status of Party Discovery

1. Defendants' Discovery Requests

Of the 35 custodians for which Plaintiff has agreed to collect and produce documents, on February 19, 2021 Plaintiff identified 30 custodial email productions as substantially complete, subject to privilege and responsiveness reviews. Following several months of discussion through the meet and confer process, on Friday (March 21, 2021), Plaintiff made an initial production of data from the Crime Data Warehouse ("CDW"), which Defendants are in the process of reviewing. The CDW was identified by Plaintiff as a source of crucial law enforcement information sought by Defendants. Despite acknowledging the importance of this data set to Defendants' requests, Plaintiff refuses to produce significant fields of data from the CDW which Defendants believe contain highly relevant detail about the individual matters identified by the CDW. Specifically,

now 24 San Francisco sales custodians Endo represented were "new" for this litigation had in fact already been produced or reproduced in the MDL. *See* ECF No. 469 at 8.

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 Plaintiff refuses to produce the "narrative" field for any of the CDW entries.⁴ Plaintiff is correct that Defendants have not completed review of "over 93,000 rows or entries" it produced late last Friday, without any accompanying key or description of the data fields included. However, even initial review reveals entries related to incidents that may be highly relevant, such as entries related to prescription forgery, that lack any field that would identify whether the forged prescription was for an opioid, for example. It is logical that the narrative field related to the incident would include additional details the officers involved believe were relevant, rendering Plaintiff's insistence that the field "bears little relevance to this litigation" perplexing.

Moreover, Plaintiff still has not produced any investigation files from the San Francisco Police Department and still has provided incomplete answers to basic questions from Defendants about how those investigation files are organized, preventing Defendants from assessing the merits of Plaintiff's objections related to producing them. Plaintiff's ongoing delay is similarly preventing Defendants from even raising specific discovery disputes with the Court, as it prevents Defendants from analyzing what gaps are present and what else Plaintiff may need to produce. Plaintiff's delays are placing further pressure on the compressed case schedule Plaintiff has repeatedly demanded.

With respect to Plaintiff's interrogatory responses, Plaintiff has served its Third Supplemental Responses and Objections to the Manufacturer Defendants' First Set of Interrogatories. The parties are meeting and conferring regarding those responses. Defendants continue to meet-and-confer with Plaintiff regarding its objections and responses to Distributor Defendants' discovery requests, but note that many responses remain incomplete. Plaintiff has already indicated it will again be supplementing several responses to Distributor Defendants' discovery requests in the future, and indicated on Monday that Defendants will receive supplemental responses to certain interrogatories by March 26, 2021. Plaintiff and Defendants are

⁴ Plaintiff's "willingness to engage with Defendants" on this issue has consisted of a representation that "in the abstract, we do not categorically oppose producing one or two narratives if Defendants identify the individual relevance and the narrative could be reviewed, redacted, and produced without undue burden." This is not sufficient or acceptable.

also meeting and conferring regarding Plaintiffs' Responses and Objections to Walgreens' Requests for Production and Interrogatories. The parties also met and conferred regarding Defendants' new narrowed request for doctor custodial files. While the parties are still negotiating, Defendants expect to file a new dispute letter Wednesday, consistent with the Court's order.

2. Plaintiff's Discovery Requests

Defendants have produced millions of documents in the MDL, which are deemed produced in this case. In addition, Defendants have made additional productions specific to this case. For example, since the last status conference, Walgreens has produced approximately 29,000 documents, including over 4,000 additional documents on March 12, and will roll out its remaining productions shortly. These totals are in addition to the more than 380,000 documents Walgreens has produced in the MDL. By the substantial completion deadline of February 26, Walgreens had substantially completed production of documents for all but the new search terms and custodians Plaintiff waited until January to request.⁵ Walgreens has also provided the information on custodians and productions that Plaintiff requested. Walgreens is rolling out its productions as soon as practicable based on the parties' negotiations, as Walgreens repeatedly told Plaintiffs during those negotiations.

Likewise, by the substantial completion deadline, the Endo and Par Defendants had substantially completed their production for all agreed upon custodial and non-custodial searches, including producing over 135,000 documents in this matter specifically. This is in addition to the approximately 4.6 million documents produced in other opioid actions that Endo and Par deemed produced here, including documents from custodial files of some jurisdiction-specific custodians relevant also to this matter. In addition, since the last status conference, and following the Court's order, the parties have continued to meet and confer regarding jurisdiction-specific search terms and to collect documents and email for Eric Vandal. These discussions have been productive, and the parties have substantially narrowed these disputes, including with the Endo and Par Defendants

Plaintiff's n.2 is incorrect. The cause of Plaintiff's delay was Plaintiff's failure to timely make requests. Walgreens provided information in response to Plaintiff's late requests promptly.

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undertaking to review tens of thousands of additional documents resulting from agreed upon search terms. The parties have also agreed to continue meeting and conferring in an effort to resolve any remaining issues.⁶

Allergan has deemed produced in this case 724,488 documents and 5,145,819 pages gathered and produced—without geographic limitation—in other opioid cases. It has also agreed to provide its production in the MDL regarding suspicious order monitoring-related documents. In late January and early February, Allergan agreed to conduct several additional searches for this case in particular at Plaintiff's request. On February 26, 2021, Allergan produced an additional 47,984 documents, including 190,209 pages, which includes the results of several of those searches. On March 13, 2021, Allergan made another substantial additional production. Allergan anticipates that the production of additional documents directly into this case, namely additional transactional data requested by Plaintiff and its privilege log, will be minimal as its production is substantially complete.

The Teva Defendants have produced over 3.2 million documents, recently substantially completed the production of documents for additional regional custodians and have agreed to production of documents for 2 additional custodians, which Teva expects to complete shortly.

Certain of the issues identified in Plaintiff's section above were not the subject of Plaintiff's recent motion to compel, including its request that Endo "replace six sales custodians Endo previously and incorrectly represented had San Francisco Bay Area sales responsibilities." Contrary to Plaintiff's assertion in n.3, infra, Endo did not represent that it produced documents "from the files of 29 San Francisco sales custodians." In its submission to this Court, Endo stated accurately that it would agree to produce documents from "a total of 29 sales force custodians." ECF No. 405 at 8. Five of these six sales custodians supervised Opana ER-related detail calls in California, but not in San Francisco specifically. Plaintiff has been aware of this since at least October 16, 2020, when Endo informed Plaintiff of the specific Regional Directors and District Managers who supervised Opana ER-related detail calls in the Bay Area. The sixth sales custodian to whom Plaintiff refers is Endo's former National Sales Director, Ron Jackson, who also served as a Regional Director. Endo informed Plaintiff that it recently learned that Mr. Jackson did not have responsibilities specific to the Bay Area as Regional Director, but his national-level responsibilities related to Opana ER are responsive to Plaintiff's requests in this case. Plaintiff has access to materials from all of these custodians, including through materials produced in other litigation. Further, Endo also agreed to and already has produced materials from all of the District Manager custodians Plaintiff requested, including all 15 District Managers with responsibilities related to Opana ER in the Bay Area.

Defendants have also served subpoenas on the San Francisco Superior Court and the University of California San Francisco Hospital.

Teva and Plaintiff continue to meet and confer regarding the requests for documents from Teva Ltd.

Anda has deemed produced more than 240,000 documents produced into the MDL in this case. In addition, Anda produced 3,452 documents compiled using San Francisco-specific search terms and San Francisco-specific transactional data on October 2, 2020. Following the Court's ruling regarding the Bay Area as the relevant geographic limitation, Anda produced statewide California transactional data on February 5, 2021, and 6,654 documents compiled using Bay Area-specific search terms on February 12, 2021, from the files of 32 different custodians. Anda also reached agreement with Plaintiff on one additional custodian and three additional search term strings on February 10, 2021, and produced 1,703 documents from this custodian's files and the additional search term results on March 10, 2021. Anda's production is now substantially complete for all of its custodians with only privilege review remaining.

B. Status of Other Third-Party Discovery

In April 2020, Defendants served requests for production on plaintiffs for the production of documents and data from all pertinent subdivisions of the City and County of San Francisco. When the City and County was dismissed as a plaintiff, Plaintiff took the position that certain of its subdivisions were not within Plaintiff's custody and control, requiring third-party subpoenas. Defendants therefore served subpoenas on the San Francisco departments and entities that Plaintiff has deemed outside of its custody and control, including the Department of the Environment, Department of Emergency Management, Board of Supervisors, Controller's Office, Mayor's Office, District Attorney's Office, Department of Human Resources, Health Service System, and Human Services Agency.⁷ These subdivisions have now responded to the subpoenas, and the parties are in the process of meeting and conferring regarding those responses. The parties will submit disputes to the Court as necessary.

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1	Defendants are also pursuing t	hird-party discovery from various state agencies, and have
2	subpoenaed multiple professional boar	rds, with which they are meeting and conferring.
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ATTESTATION I, Aelish M. Baig, am the ECF User whose ID and password are being used to file this Joint Status Update. In compliance with Civil Local Rule 5-1(i)(3), I hereby attest that Defendants have concurred in this filing. DATED: March 16, 2021 s/ Aelish M. Baig AELISH M. BAIG

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that on March 16, 2021, I authorized the electronic filing of the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the e-mail addresses on the attached Electronic Mail Notice List, and I hereby certify that I caused the mailing of the foregoing via the United States Postal Service to the non-CM/ECF participants indicated on the attached Manual Notice List.

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